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**MAR 10 2006**

PTO/SB/31 (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2008. OMB 0851-0031

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<b>NOTICE OF APPEAL FROM THE EXAMINER TO THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES</b>		Docket Number (Optional)  7000-431				
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile on the date indicated below to: Examiner: <u>Dzung D. Tran</u> Fax Number: <u>571-273-8300</u> Art Unit: <u>2638</u> Date: _____  Signature _____  Typed or printed name _____	In re Application of <u>Alan F. Graves et al.</u> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:50%; padding: 2px;">Application Number <u>09/580,495</u></td> <td style="width:50%; padding: 2px;">Filed <u>5/30/2000</u></td> </tr> </table> For <b>OPTICAL SWITCH WITH POWER EQUALIZATION</b> <table border="1" style="width:100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width:50%; padding: 2px;">Art Unit <u>2638</u></td> <td style="width:50%; padding: 2px;">Examiner <u>Dzung D. Tran</u></td> </tr> </table>		Application Number <u>09/580,495</u>	Filed <u>5/30/2000</u>	Art Unit <u>2638</u>	Examiner <u>Dzung D. Tran</u>
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Art Unit <u>2638</u>	Examiner <u>Dzung D. Tran</u>					

Applicant hereby appeals to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences from the last decision of the examiner.

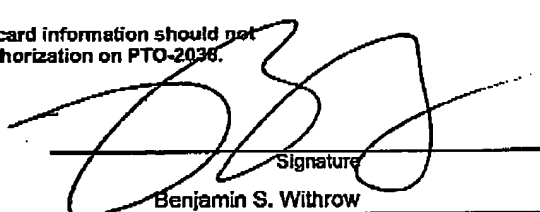
The fee for this Notice of Appeal is (37 CFR 1.17(b)) \$ 500.00

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. Therefore, the fee shown above is reduced by half, and the resulting fee is: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ A check in the amount of the fee is enclosed.  
☒ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.  
☐ The Director has already been authorized to charge fees in this application to a Deposit Account. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.  
☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-1732. I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.  
☒ A petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a) (PTO/SB/22) is enclosed.

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

I am the

☐ applicant/inventor.  
☐ assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71. Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96)  
☒ attorney or agent of record. Registration number 40,878  
☐ attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34(a). Registration number if acting under 37 CFR 1.34(a): \_\_\_\_\_

  
 Signature  
Benjamin S. Withrow  
 Typed or printed name  
919-654-4520  
 Telephone number  
March 10, 2006  
 Date

NOTE: Signatures of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required. Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.

☐ \*Total of \_\_\_\_\_ forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.181. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS, SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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